

St. Helens Mist
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COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER



ROAD WORK AND THE WAR

It has been suggested by some that for the period of the war, road work should be curtailed. Liberty bonds, War Savings Stamps, donations and contributions to the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A. and other war activities, are given as reasons why the taxpayer should be relieved of the burden of taxes.

If the cessation of road work in this county or any other Oregon county, would aid in any of the necessary works for the winning of the war, then we would say, stop the road work until after the war. The thought occurs, however, that the building of and maintaining of good roads is one essential of war work and a very important one. The government is calling on the farmers to produce more than heretofore, because the needs of our army and allies demand that more must be produced. It is ridiculous to ask the farmer to produce more, if he cannot get the products of his farm to market, and a good road is the only way by which the farmer can reach the consumer or market. If road work should stop during the war, it would be necessary to spend enormous sums to get back even to the present state. This would not be economy nor would it be what the government is striving for, conservation.

The government is not waiting until after the war to make plans for the care of the wounded and maimed. Right now, re-construction schools are being started to care for the soldiers who return unfit for hard manual labor. The government is looking far into the future and there is no reason why county officers should not follow the example of the government authorities.

The Mist does not advocate the laying out and building of scenic highways, but it does advocate the building of necessary roads and the maintaining of the roads now built.

A farmer or taxpayer who lives on a good road is in much better position to aid the government than one who lives on a road which, at times, is impassable.

Necessary road work is part of our war work. This work should be carried on.

BASEBALL

The direct, practical value of the war department's baseball ruling is not great. The number of professional ball players who are of draft age and subject to the "work or fight" rule is not large enough to make much difference in the war. Indirectly, however, the matter is highly important. There is a big principle involved, and the war department is right to insist on its uniform application.

It does not do to establish any favored class in so vital a matter as military service. We may argue that baseball is "necessary," in order to provide the public with wholesome recreation, but we know all the time that it is not really necessary. We can get our recreation in other ways. Indeed, the baseball-loving public has been doing so to an unprecedented extent this summer, as the diminished patronage of the games proves. The main thing, however, is to avoid exceptions to the draft law, because exceptions are always likely to be misunderstood and to cause discontent and heart-burnings.

For every baseball player sent into the army or into a war factory a hundred young men will go to their cantonments more cheerfully, and a thousand relatives will acquiesce more readily.

As for baseball, it will not really suffer. Professional ball may be suspended for the period of the war, but there will be no suspension of amateur ball, in the army or at home. The national game will go on with unabated enthusiasm.—Ex.

Germany intends to sweep the sea of hospital ships and barges drawn by tugs.

ENFORCE OR REPEAL TRAFFIC ORDINANCE

A short while ago the city council passed an ordinance, it was what they called the "traffic ordinance." One of the provisions was that no person under 18 years of age should be allowed to operate an automobile within the corporate limits of the City of St. Helens, unless such person was accompanied by an older person. The marshal thought it was up to him to enforce the ordinance and called a truck driver to time. The truckman appeared before the council and stated his side of the case, so the council agreed to "hold the matter in abeyance," owing to the scarcity of labor. The ordinance was passed only a few weeks ago, and the council then knew what the labor situation was but just the same passed the ordinance, and even went stronger than the state law as to the age limit. If the ordinance was necessary two weeks ago, it is necessary now. Ordinances should not be made to "lay in abeyance." If not necessary, they should be repealed. It is not wise plan to make an ordinance, instruct the marshal to enforce it and then when the marshal acts, allow the matter to "lay in abeyance."

DOES AN EDUCATION PAY?

Does it pay an acorn to become an oak?

Does it pay to escape being a rich iguarnus?

Does it pay for a chrysalis to unfold into a butterfly?

Does it pay to add power to the lens of the microscope or telescope?

Does it pay to acquire a personal wealth which no disaster or misfortune can wreck or ruin?

Does it pay to learn how to focus thought with power, how to marshal one's mental forces effectively?

Does it pay a diamond to have its facets around, to let in the light to reveal its hidden wealth of splendor?

Does it pay to have expert advice and training, to have high ideals held up to one in the most critical years of one's life?

Does it pay to open a little wider the door of a narrow life to push out one's horizon in order to get a wider outlook, a clearer vision?

Does it pay to experience the joy of self-discovery, to open up whole continents of possibilities on one's nature which might otherwise remain undiscovered?—Dr. Orison Swett Marden in the New Success.

If the council is going to spend any money fixing up a temporary dock, why not fix it up on the city's property? The landing could easily be moved to the foot of St. Helens street, in fact, it will float down all of its own accord, if released from its present moorings. A good walk could then be built from the landing to the foot of the street. If any of the scows or private docks which now occupy the city's water front are in the way, let their owners move them to whatever place they can find. If the public's money is going to be spent, it seems the right thing to do to spend it on the public's property.

What the Woolwich Arsenal workers said to the munitions workers of Coventry, England, may not have been very polite language, but it was good, straight-from-the-shoulder and fair-between-the-eyes. These words may and should live in the history of the war: "Strike and you may go to hell! Woolwich will remain at work and earn the right to shake the hand of the soldier when he returns." What a splendid slogan: "Earn the right to shake the hand of the soldier when he returns."—Astoria Budget.

Remember the Fair Dates, September 18, 19 and 20—and make your plans now to attend the biggest and best fair Columbia county has yet had. If you are a resident of the county, it is your fair and you should attend. If you do not live in the county, you'll be welcome all the same.

A short while ago, the council passed an "idleness" ordinance. It must have been only an idle thought, for the ordinance has never been enforced, although it is flagrantly violated each day.

While the weather is good, the fair board should paint up and clean up the fair buildings and the fence around the grounds. Clean and well kept grounds will naturally make one think of a clean and good fair.

Pershing said, "Give us nine men and the Y. M. C. A. and we will have a more effective fighting force than as though we had ten men without the Y. M. C. A."

Make one spoon of sugar do the work of two, every day until the war is through.

American troops have won a great victory. Necessarily, we must have had large casualties.

THAT LONG RANGE GUN

(Continued from Page 1)

the main streets. There were many in the wide streets. They sat about the tables in front of the restaurants of course all discussing the new German method of attempting to terrorize women and children. Some talked seriously about, others were puzzled while still others joked.

People were killed on each day of the shelling, but no great number. Later, on Good Friday, the German god of war reaped a greater benefit. We had left the city by that time, but we were told in London that the 74 persons killed in a certain church had not been killed by the explosion of the shell that hit the church. The diameter of the shell sent was figured at nine inches, that conclusion having been reached by completing a circle from fragments of the shell. The weight was estimated at more than 300 pounds. When the shell came down its 20 miles and hit the roof of the church, it broke a beam and caused a large part of the roof to cave in, killing 75 persons and injuring more than 100.

The plan failed absolutely in its object, for instead of inclining the French to sue for a German peace the effect was directly opposite. It inclined them only to fight the harder.

When the Kaiser Wants to be Good

It was not long ago that the German government declared that it had concluded gas warfare to be inhuman, and expressed a desire to enter into an agreement with the allies, to do away with that method of punishing and killing soldiers during this war.

Germany had started it; that government had sprung a surprise costing the lives of a good many allied soldiers. Then the Allies took it up; in self defense, also inventing gas masks to protect the men in the trenches.

We watched a gas attack demonstrated. The gas is carried by the wind, covering the ground like a thick, heavy blanket. It floats along scarcely two feet above the ground, sinking into the trenches as it is carried along.

We also tested the strength of various gases. Going into a room twelve feet square, a small amount was squirted into the room from an atomizer no larger than those used for perfumery. It seemed that no more was sent into the room than would be required in perfuming a handkerchief, yet our eyes began to smart and water.

We saw 67 men who had been victims of German gas. They were on a hospital ship. Their eyes, nostrils and lips were sore and swollen. Their lungs pained them as they breathed. They suffered terribly and they were not the worst sufferers among the victims for some had died and others were still in a condition that made it impossible to move them.

The wind is always necessary in a gas charge. When Germany came out with a desire to agree to use gas no more, the Allies naturally turned to statistics already prepared and found that wind in the western front blows so that the Allies can send a gas charge into the German lines several times oftener than the Germans can attack them.

Of course, that was the key to the Kaiser's desire to be good, but that was not the only one.

Later it became known that Germany is very short of rubber, an article very necessary in making the gas masks that protect the soldiers.

So it is that Germany's inhuman method of warfare has been turned on her and finds her poorly prepared to protect herself.

The Allies find that they are acting only along the line of common sense when they are suspicious every time the Kaiser and his military party make an offer to be good.

The Kaiser and Glory

When the German military power, in their clever devilishness and in their devilish cleverness come forward with some new horror in the method of taking human life, the Kaiser comes out with a public statement and it is always on one theme.

He calls on God and man to witness the GLORY of the German arms. If it is bombing women and children of London, if it is shelling the mothers and babes of Paris, if it is spreading poisonous gases; whatever it may be, the Kaiser speaks of glory, glory, glory always. Glory in taking human life!

Other nations think of service; of making the world a better place in which to live; of doing an unpleasant task, that of curbing this military spirit of the Kaiser and his military party. They regret that it is necessary to kill, but the enemy of humanity and world decency is abroad and civilization must be defended.

The very spirit in which the two sides are fighting marks the difference so clearly that there can be no question as to the right of it, where justice is and victory should be.

REPORT

all the news happenings that come to your attention to this office. It will be appreciated for every piece of news will make the paper more interesting for you as well as others. We want and with your help will print all

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SCHEDULE

	A. M.	P. M.
Lv. St. Helens.....	7:30	1:30
Warren	7:45	1:45
Scappoose	8:00	2:00
Ar. Portland	9:20	3:20
Lv. Portland	10:00	4:00
Ar. St. Helens.....	11:50	6:50

Saturdays and Sundays

Special trip leaving St. Helens 6 p. m.
Leave Portland 11 p. m.



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